

# Proprietary Schools are in Full Bloom: How are You Dealing with Transfer Credit?

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COTA Conference  
Columbia , MO  
January 30, 2009

# Where do we start?

## With a conversation.

- What do we know about proprietary schools in MO?
- What are our perceptions about proprietary school education?
- What do we know about MDHE position on proprietary schools and transfer credit?

# Why is it important to discuss?

Impact on MO transfer students

Money, time , duplication of courses

Issues created by “swirling” attendance behaviors

Better understanding of Proprietary school certification process in MO

Joint Leadership Statement on Commitment to Transfer

We would rather create reasonable transfer pathways for these students than to be “told” what we will do.



# Did you know...

- ◆ that COTA and CBHE started dialogue around the issue of credit transfer in early 2005?
- ◆ that there is a section on MDHE's website devoted to proprietary institutions and their certification process?
- ◆ that CBHE and COTA deem it unacceptable to turn away students simply because they are from the proprietary sector?
- ◆ that there are websites and organizations that publicize those institutions that are "transfer friendly" to proprietary students?
- ◆ that your institution can be "transfer friendly" to MO students with proprietary credits and still maintain your institution's right to accept and deny credit transfer?

# Glossary of Terms

- ◆ HETA-Higher Education Transfer Alliance
- ◆ CHEA- parent organization of HLC  
Higher Learning Commission
- ◆ GAO – U.S.General Accounting Office
- ◆ MDHE- MO Department of Education
- ◆ CBHE- Coordinating Board of Higher Education
- ◆ COTA- Committee on Transfer and Articulation

# Chronological Summary and Updates

- ◆ 1/2005 Joint Leadership Statement signed
- ◆ 3/2005 COTA Recommendations
- ◆ 6/2005 New web Directory- HETA
- ◆ 7/2005 National Legislation appears
  - H.R. 609 – HERA
  - COTA drafts letter to institution leaders
- ◆ 9/2005 COTA letter to CAOs, AOs and CSAs
  - List of MO Certified Proprietary Schools
  - FAQs
  - Proprietary Certification process
  - Position on credit transfer



# Chronology Cont'd

- ◆ 10/2005 GAO Report
  - COTA Update and proposals
- ◆ 12/2005 COTA and Proprietary Input
- ◆ 1/2006 COTA AC created with Proprietary representation
- ◆ 3/2008 National legislative update



Where do we go from  
here?



# Suggestions

- ◆ Based on discussions with stakeholders, developed a shell document that can be customized for your institution
  - Ensures student can communicate critical information that is necessary for credit evaluation process
  - Directs students to the appropriate resource at the previous institution

# Suggestions, Continued

- Offers a feedback loop for institutions to discuss course objectives or other factors that may have affected the equivalency of the course(s)
- ◆ Chart of standardized equivalency measures for course conversion

# [Insert School Name/Logo]

◆ [ Admissions

Transcripts & Graduation

Registration

◆ [Date]

◆ To Director of Education:

- ◆ We have received a transcript from your institution for [student name here]. In order to properly evaluate the credits, we require that students transferring from a non-regionally accredited college or university provide additional information for credit evaluation.
- ◆ Please provide a copy of the course syllabus and course description for each class listed below for the appropriate term, as well as faculty credentials from the faculty member who taught the
- ◆ course (s) at that time. You may provide this directly to the student or if you prefer, you may forward this directly to my attention at [insert school and department name here]. If information is sent directly to me, please include a copy of this letter or another form of identification of the student to whom it pertains.
- ◆
- ◆ To expedite the course evaluation process, it may be necessary to contact you for additional information and clarification. Please provide your contact information along with student verification information.
- ◆
- ◆ Credit hours for this program/course are measured in (X one): Semester: \_\_\_\_\_ Quarter: \_\_\_\_\_
- ◆ Once this information is received, it will be reviewed by our faculty members to determine equivalency and transferability. Our completed course evaluation (s) will be returned to you for your records. If you would like to further discuss the evaluation outcome and any course objectives information, please contact me for a referral to the appropriate faculty member and department.
- ◆ Thank you for your time and assistance in helping this student complete a smooth transfer from your institution to [insert college name].
- ◆ Sincerely,
- ◆ [insert school official name]
- ◆ [insert school official title]
- ◆ [insert phone number (xxx)xxx-xxxx]
- ◆ [insert school official e-mail]



# Semester Credit Hours (SCH)= Quarter Credit Hours (QCH)

- ◆ 1 SCH = 15 Clock Hrs. of classroom contact
- ◆ 1 QCH = 10 Clock Hrs. of classroom contact
- ◆ 1 SCH = 15 Clock Hrs. of supervised lab or shop instruct.
- ◆ 1 QCH = 20 Clock Hrs. of supervised lab or shop instruct.
- ◆ 1 SCH = 30 Clock Hrs. of documented Independent study
- ◆ 1 QCH = 20 Clock Hrs. of documented Independent study
- ◆ 1 SCH = 45 Clock Hrs. of externship experience
- ◆ 1 QCH = 30 Clock Hrs. of externship experience



# WEBSITES

Proprietary School Certification

<http://www.dhe.mo.gov/proprietarycertification.shtml>

Joint Statement

<http://www.dhe.mo.gov/transferelements.shtml>

COTA FAQs

<http://www.dhe.mo.gov/cotafaqs.shtml>

HETA Directory

<http://www.chesapeake.org/HETA/default.asp>.

GAO Report

<http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-06-22>

National/specialized accrediting agencies

[http://www.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/accreditation\\_pg8.html](http://www.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/accreditation_pg8.html)